

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 00774 100938Z

11

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 /011 W  
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P 100845Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2828

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 774

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, TC

SUBJ: BUDGET SITUATION

REF: (A) STATE 076212 (B) ABU DHABI 428 (C) ABU DHABI 371

1. MANNER IN WHICH THIS YEAR'S BUDGET HAS BEEN HANDLED -- THE CONTINUING ATMOSPHERE OF CRISIS -- BECOMES MINDBOGGLING AFTER A TIME. MOREOVER WITH EACH MESSAGE FROM DEPT. (STATE 40299, 22313 AND REF A) IT BECOMES INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE NECESSITIES FOR CUTS OUTLINED THEREIN WITH CORRESPONDENCE WE RECEIVING AT SAME TIME REQUESTING US TO SUBMIT PURCHASE ORDERS SO THAT IF FOURTH QUARTER FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE WE WILL BE ABLE OBLIGATE PROMPTLY. AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, THE BUREAU MUST BE AWARE THAT BY CONTINUING TO REDUCE OUR GOING RATE IN THIS MANNER -- AND RECOGNIZING FACT THAT WE WILL BE ON A CONTINUING RESOLUTION FOR AT LEAST ONE QUARTER NEXT FY -- WE NOT ONLY COMPOUND OUR PRESENT FISCAL PROBLEMS, BUT WE DELAY AND MAKE MORE DIFFICULT EFFORT WHICH MUST BE MADE TO ACHIEVE SOUKND BUDGET MANAGEMENT FOR THIS POST. IN SHORT, WHILE WE APPRECIATE IT IS NOT A PROBLEM OF BUREAU'S MAKING, IT IS NEVERTHELESS ONE EXPLETIVE DELETED OF A WAY TO RUN A RAILROAD.

2. NEVERTHELESS, IN SPIRIT OF MUTUAL COOPERATION REQUESTED REF A WE HAVE AGAIN TURNED TO OUR BUDGET AS REFLECTED IN REFS B AND C. WE HAVE, OF COURSE, AS NOTED THOSE REFTELS, ALREADY MADE CUTS WHICH IN OUR VIEW INVOLVE ESSENTIAL ITEMS AND WHICH HAVE ELIMINATED ALREADY MOST OF THOSE EXPENDITURES SPECIFICALLY  
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TARGETED FOR CUTS IN REF A. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE AGAIN TAKEN

A HARD LOOK AND HAVE COME UP WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CUTS. WE MUST POINT OUT THAT THESE FURTHER CUTS HAVE DRASTICALLY CUT OUR OPERATIONS AND IF ANY UNFORESEEN EXPENSE ARISES LIKE TCU COOLER SYSTEM BREAKDOWN ( SEE ABU DHABI 653) WE WILL HAVE TO GO TO THE BUREAU FOR FUNDS. WE HAVE CURTAILED AND REPROGRAMED TRAVEL AS TO POSTPONE ALL R&R UNTIL NEXT FY AND INTERNAL TRAVEL HAS BEEN CUT TO THE BONE, WITH POST, FOR EXAMPLE, REQUESTING DEPT. OF COMMERCE TO FUND ALL TRAVEL IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED CATALOG SHOW IN DUBAI. WE HAVE POSTPONED LOCAL WAGE INCREASE UNTIL BEGINNING FY 76 - SAVING \$1,270. OVERTIME AND HOLIDAY PAY FOR LOCALS HAS BEEN REDUCED BY \$300. ONLY AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER WILL RECEIVE OVERTIME, HIS USE BEING JUSTIFIED ON SECURITY GROUNDS. BECAUSE OF AN OVERESTIMATION IN REF B WE FEEL WE CAN DEDUCT \$300 FROM AMERICAN SUNDAY DIFFERENTIAL PSO TELEPHONETOLL CALLS WILL BE REDUCED AND HOPEFULLY WE CAN CUT \$500 FROM THAT OBJECT CLASS. THE POST WILL FOREGO ALL BUT EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR THUS SAVING AKN ADDITIONAL \$4,000. BY POSTPONING THE PURCHASE OF THE TCU FURNITURE AND OTHER NEEDED HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR THAT EMPLOYEE WE CAN FURTHER REDUCE OUR FOURTH QUARTER NEEDS BY \$8,000. ALTHOGETHER, WE FEEL WE CAN SAVE A TOTAL OF \$14,370 FROM OUR REQUEST IN REF B. HOWEVER, THIS STILL PUTS US \$6,056 OVER THE \$89,800 ALLOTTED BY THE BUREAU FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER. WITHOUT THESE ADDITIVONAL FUNDS WE SIMPLY DO NOT BELIEVE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN EVEN BASIC POST OPERATIONS THROUGH JUNE 30.  
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